

What is claimed is:

1. A method of displaying a sequence of steps in a mathematical derivation on a display screen of a handheld computing device, the sequence of steps comprising a plurality of objects and a plurality of transformations, wherein the method comprises:
 - 5 displaying at least one transformation on the display screen; and
 - displaying at least a portion of at least one object on the display screen, wherein an upper bound is enforced on the display height of the object.
2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein an object subjected to the upper bound is partially truncated from view on the display screen, further comprising:
 - 10 displaying an arrow to indicate the object truncated portions, wherein a user of the handheld computer device can select the arrow to view the object truncated portions.
3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the arrow points towards the truncated portions of the object.
 - 15 portions of the object.
4. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the user can scroll the object, independent of scrolling the entire display screen, to view the entire object.
5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the upper bound comprises around 110 x 60 pixels for a 160 x 100 pixel handheld calculator display screen.
 - 20 60 pixels for a 160 x 100 pixel handheld calculator display screen.

6. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the upper bound is horizontal or vertical.

7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein an object subjected to the upper bound is partially truncated from view on the display screen, further comprising:

5 displaying an arrow to indicate the object truncated portions, wherein a user of the handheld computer device can select the arrow to view the object truncated portions.

8. The method according to Claim 7, wherein the user can scroll the object vertically or horizontally to view the entire object.

10 9. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the object is a mathematical expression.

10 10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein manipulating the mathematical expression comprises a mathematical derivation.

15 11. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising displaying a menu bar, displaying a problem statement line, and displaying a status line on the display screen.

12. A handheld computing device comprising:

a display screen capable of displaying mathematical expressions, the display screen including a cursor;

a key panel having keys at least capable of selecting positions of the cursor and moving the cursor horizontally or vertically on the display screen;

a memory for storing at least an algorithm; and

a processor for executing the algorithm, wherein the algorithm comprises a method of displaying a sequence of steps in manipulating mathematical equations on the display screen, the sequence of steps comprising a plurality of objects and a plurality of transformations, wherein the method comprises displaying at least one transformation on the display screen, and displaying at least a portion of at least one object on the display screen, wherein an upper bound is enforced on the display height of the object.

13. The handheld computing device according to Claim 12, wherein an object subjected to the upper bound is partially truncated from view on the display screen, wherein the algorithm further comprises displaying an arrow to indicate the object truncated portions, wherein a user of the handheld computer device can select the arrow to view the object truncated portions.

14. The handheld computing device according to Claim 12, wherein the arrow points towards the truncated portions of the object.

15. The handheld computing device according to Claim 12, wherein the object may be
scrolled, independent of scrolling the entire display screen, so that a user can view the
entire object.

16. The handheld computing device according to Claim 15, wherein the upper bound is
horizontal or vertical, wherein the user can scroll the object vertically or horizontally to
view the entire object.

17. The handheld computing device according to Claim 12, wherein the display screen
comprises a 160 x 100 pixel handheld calculator display screen, wherein the upper
bound comprises around 110 x 60 pixels.

18. The handheld computing device according to Claim 12, wherein the object is a
mathematical expression.

19. The handheld computing device according to Claim 18, wherein manipulating the
mathematical expression comprises a mathematical derivation.

20. The handheld device according to Claim 12, wherein the object comprises
constants, variables, functions, algebraic expressions, or combinations thereof.

21. The handheld device according to Claim 12, wherein manipulating the mathematical expression comprises simplifying expressions and/or solving equations.

5 22. The handheld device according to Claim 12, further comprising a menu bar, a problem statement line, and a status line displayed on the display screen.